ABSTRACT OF INVENTION

A method and use of a labelled compound for monitoring the transfer of a foreign gene including selecting the foreign gene which has been isolated from a cell or virus and transferred into a cell population and selecting the labelled compound which will interact selectively with a protein expressed by the foreign gene to produce a labelled product. The labelled compound has a rate of expulsion from the cells which is greater than that of the labelled product. Further, the use and method include administering to the cells an effective dose of the labelled compound such that the labelled compound selectively interacts with the protein to produce the labelled product, waiting a period of time such that a substantial amount of the labelled compound has been expelled from the cells and such that a detectable amount of the labelled product remains and determining the extent and location of the protein by detecting the labelled product.